

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 680
By Mumpower

A RESOLUTION to congratulate the Tri-City Regional Airport on the celebration of its 60th anniversary.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to help citizens celebrate milestones in the longevity of their companies; and

WHEREAS, on September 1, 1937, an American Airlines Ford Tri-Motor, landed on the newly constructed, Tri-City Regional Airport, which at the time only consisted of two small runways, a terminal building, and an aircraft hanger; and

WHEREAS, what began as a discussion among a small group of businessmen in 1934 resulted in an airport that, for more than 60 years, has served the Tri-Cities, Upper East Tennessee, and Southwest Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Airport was originally owned by Sullivan County, the cities of Bristol, Johnson City, and Kingsport, which established a twelve-man board, the Tri-City Airport Commission, to oversee the airport's control and administration; and

WHEREAS, in response to the need to streamline the airport's management structure, William K. Hart was named Tri-Cities Regional Airport Manager in 1966; and under his august leadership, the plans for the construction of a new terminal at the airport were unveiled; and

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WHEREAS, many of Mr. Hart's plans for the Tri-City Airport have been carried out by his successor, John Hanlin, who since 1982 has overseen the runway expansion project, the construction of a new control tower, and efforts to improve passenger services; and

WHEREAS, from the age of propeller type DC-3's to the present day Boeing 737's, the Tri-Cities Regional Airport has flourished, providing accessibility to airlines and its patrons for over 60 years; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we do hereby congratulate and honor Tri-Cities Regional Airport on their 60th year of operation and thank the Tri-City Airport Commission for their exemplary service to Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.